



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## March 2016 Newsletter

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### Upcoming Meeting:

April 8, 2016: Tentative topic is weather and storm spotting related. *(This meeting, along with all club meetings until June, will be at IVY Tech, building NMC, 50 West Fall Creek Parkway, North Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> floor Auditorium.)*

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### Highlights from the March Meeting:

Called to order at 7:39 by club vice president, Dave Miller, K9RTT. There were around 40 in attendance at the meeting.

Dave announced that tickets are still available for the bus to Dayton. The day trip will be on Saturday, May 21, with tickets for the bus running \$30 per person (same as last year). Contact club treasurer Rhonda Curtis, WS9H, for tickets. Note that the bus ticket does not include admission to the show. Hamvention tickets are on sale now via their web site at <http://hamvention.org/purchase-tickets/>

Dave said Field Day plans are still being put together. Jay Kraus, W9TC, reminded those in attendance about the Indiana QSO Party coming up on Saturday, May 7, from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm, local time. This year, in recognition of the bicentennial of the state, there will be a special award for working the 15 original counties. Also, Jay noted that the INQP runs at the same time as the New England and W7 QSO Parties. For more information on the Indiana QSO Party, go to <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/index.html>.

Jay also announced that Mike Goode, N9NS, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. He has had surgery on it this past Wednesday, and should be discharged from the hospital shortly. Indianapolis Radio Club members will remember Mike has given several presentations at club meetings on Dxpeditions he has been on. In 2014, Mike took part in

the highly successful W1AW/KH8 activation of American Samoa for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ARRL. Jay passed a “get well” card around for those present to sign for Mike.

Dave announced that Mike Palmer, N9FEB, is still in search of a few more hams to support the Mini-Marathon. *[See article later in newsletter for more information.]*

More information will be forthcoming on the Hilltop Contest.

Next Dave introduced Brent Walls, N9BA, Assistant Section Manager, for his presentation on the National Traffic System (NTS). Brent announced that he is running un-opposed for Indiana Section Manager. Brent has been a ham for 20 years. He said the NTS is the “Relay” in ARRL. Relaying messages across North America was one of the primary uses for ham radio in it's early days. Relaying of messages was started around 1915 or so. The system for relaying messages was redesigned by George Hart, W1NJM, in 1949. There is no specific licensing requirement to take part in the NTS.

In Indiana, Brian Jenks, W9BGJ, is the Section Traffic Manager. Information on the NTS can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/nts>. For Indiana HF traffic net information, go to <http://inarrl.org/inhfnet.html>.

The meeting concluded after Brent's interesting talk and door prizes, at 8:40 pm.

## **Ham Radio News:**

### **HELP NEEDED FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**

Ham Radio Volunteers are needed in all the public served events that we support. These are:

May 7 - 500 Festival Mini Marathon  
May 28 - 500 Festival Parade  
Jun 4 - American Diabetes Tour-de-Cure Bike Ride  
Aug 1 - Indy Air Race  
Sep 10 - Multiple Sclerosis Bike Ride  
Oct 1 - Indianapolis Marathon in Lawrence  
Nov 7 - Indianapolis Monumental Marathon

Contact is Mike Palmer, N9FEB ---- N9FEB@comcast.net

Michael R. Palmer, N9FEB

Marion County IN Events Coordinator for Ham Radio  
7461 Hague Rd., Indpls, IN 46256  
(317) 849-3602 home  
(317) 753-8691 cell  
[www.IndyHams.org](http://www.IndyHams.org)

## **FCC INVITES COMMENT ON ARRL PETITION RE: 80/75 METERS**

The FCC has put the ARRL's January *Petition for Rule Making* ([RM 11759](#)) on public notice and invited interested parties to comment on what the League has called "minimal but necessary changes" to 80 and 75 meters. The ARRL petitioned the FCC to fix a "shortfall in available RTTY/data spectrum" that the Commission created when it reapportioned 80 and 75 meters 10 years ago.

The League's petition asked the FCC to shift the boundary between the 80 meter RTTY/data subband and the 75 meter phone/image subband from 3600 kHz to 3650 kHz. The proposed change received strong support from ARRL members, and the ARRL Board of Directors adopted it as policy at its July 2015 meeting. At that time the Board also agreed to seek RTTY and data privileges for Novice and Technician licensees within their current 15 meter CW subband, and to do the same on 80 meters, depending on the outcome of the 80/75 meter subband revision.

The petition asks the FCC to make the following changes to the Part 97 Amateur Radio Service rules, with respect to 80/75 meters:

- Modify the RTTY/data subband, so that it extends from 3500 kHz to 3650 kHz.
- Modify the phone/image subband, so that it extends from 3650 kHz to 4000 kHz.
- Make 3600-3650 kHz available for General and Advanced Class licensees, as was the case prior to 2006.
- Make 3600-3650 kHz available to Novice and Technician licensees for telegraphy — consistent with existing rules permitting Novices and Technicians to operate CW in the 80, 40, and 15 meter General and Advanced RTTY/data subbands.
- Modify the rules governing automatically controlled digital stations (ACDS), to shift the ACDS segment from 3585-3600 kHz to 3600-3615 kHz, consistent with the IARU Region 1 and 2 band plans.

For more information, point your browser to <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-invites-comments-on-arrl-petition-that-seeks-80-75-meter-adjustments>.

## FCC SEEKS COMMENT ON PETITION RE: LIFETIME LICENSES

The FCC is seeking comments on a *Petition for Rule Making* ([RM 11760](#)) that asks the FCC to grant lifetime Amateur Radio licenses. Mark F. Krotz, N7MK, of Mesa, Arizona, filed his request with the FCC last November. He wants the FCC to revise § 97.25 of its rules to indicate that Amateur Radio licenses are granted for the holder's lifetime, instead of for the current 10 year term. Krotz noted that the General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) already is issued on a lifetime basis, and he maintained that not having to renew licenses would lighten the FCC's workload.

"It would be mutually beneficial for the FCC and Amateur Radio operators to update Part 97 to grant operator licenses for lifetime, Krotz said in his filing. "The FCC would benefit by reducing administrative costs."

In 2014 the FCC granted lifetime credit for examination elements 3 and 4, but applicants seeking relicensing under that provision still must pass examination element 2. Individuals may [submit](#) comments via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

## NEW EXTRA CLASS QUESTION POOL EFFECTIVE IN JULY

The new Amateur Extra class question pool, effective July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2020, is now available at the National Conference of Volunteer Coordinators (NCVEC) website (<http://www.ncvec.org/>). The published version with a date of February 5 includes errata from the initial release on January 8. This is the final version and may be used for test and study material preparation. Question Pool Committee chair, Roland Anders, K3RA, describes the new question pool as "a fairly significant change relative to the current pool, which expires on June 30. The primary changes are modernization of the pool. All in all, the Question Pool Committee has worked to keep the Extra class exam up to date, to provide a high-quality examination, and to insure that the incoming Extra class amateurs are well qualified to be leaders in the hobby."

The most significant topics covered by new questions include:

- digital communications
- digital test equipment
- software defined radio
- propagation/space weather
- common antenna types
- associated operating topics

While questions were removed to make room for the new questions, the committee also removed questions to make the level of difficulty more consistent. Approximately 60

questions were edited for clarification or grammatical issues. The total number of questions increased slightly from 700 to 712. The ARRL VEC wishes to thank the NCVEC Question Pool Committee for their hard work on behalf of the volunteer testing community.

## **POSTAGE RATES GOING DOWN!!**

That's right, your state-side and international QSLs will cost less to mail, effective April 10. This is due to a surcharge removal. A couple of examples of reductions are domestic one ounce letters will go from 49 cents to 47 cents, and international letters will go from \$1.20 to \$1.15. Complete information can be found at [http://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2016/pr16\\_009.htm](http://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2016/pr16_009.htm).

## **HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE**

I have a new 3 500 tube that I would like to sell. I paid \$190 for it and I would be pleased to receive \$115 for it. I also have an unused MFJ Artificial Ground. I would like to receive around \$80 for the unit. (Prices reduced).

Newly listed item: Yaesu FRG 7 General Coverage Receiver, In excellent Condition.  
\$175.00

Thanks, David Wilhelmus, WA9OUX  
Contact : [wilhelmusdavid@gmail.com](mailto:wilhelmusdavid@gmail.com)  
Phone: 317 926-2358

## **MORE HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE**

N9JMX L'il Predator (2") Screwdriver  
Asking \$150.00.

Original Hamsticks for 6M/20M/75M.  
Asking \$25.00 for all three.

Contact [w0lpq9@msn.com](mailto:w0lpq9@msn.com) or 439-9421.

Bill Lambing, W0LPQ  
Greenwood

## **YET MORE GEAR FOR SALE**

Icom IC 735

Works 100%. I have the plastic front cover. It is intact, but I don't want to force it back on. It's available. Check it out in the shack before buying.

\$375.00 OBO.

MFJ-1025 Noise Canceling / Signal Enhancer. Works.

\$50.00

CWTOUCHKEYER Model P1 with AC Power Adapter, Manual & Cheat Sheet. List for \$99.00 to \$119.00. Asking \$75.00 OBO.

Contact Dovid - N9APE

317-259-8017

## **MORE GEAR**

For Sale or make offer:

1 - TM40 U. S. Towers Tubular Mast with free standing base and lift kit. Only 3 yrs old, highly galvanized, 2 winches with brakes. Has G5 RV Dipole, Coax and Diamond 2M-6M counterpoise Ant's. New cost to Insurance Agency \$3,000, and \$700 for trucking from Lincoln KS. My selling price is going to make someone very happy, at 1/3 cost or \$1200.00.

To anyone building Ham Stuff (Free Come and Get It!)

1 - 465 P. A. with 2500 V plate supply on 2 black wrinkle BUD cabinets.

Measurements on BUD Cabinets:

465-A Amp is 22"W x 15"T x 15"D. Has a hinge lid.

Power Supply is 22"W x 29.5"T x 15"D.

The Power Supply 2500V on Rollway Cabinet weighs (a guess) about 75-80 lbs.

Anyone interested, can inspect at their convenience, located on E side of S Meridian South of Troy Ave, N of St. Roch's School.

Harold Stark, K9UBL, 3215 S. Meridian St. Indy (317) 788-1210

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Royce Baugh, KB9AL

## FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

## SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

## Signals from the Past:

**From the February-March, 1956 *Amachewer*:**

Several meeting concerning the future of the Indianapolis Radio Club paper AMACHEWER have been held the past month as well as discussion at club at the business meetings. Prices were secured to see what a printed sheet would cost and the figure of \$120 for 500 copies was deemed too high to enable the club to support even with advertising. As a result the paper will continue for the present with the mimeographed form as has been done in the past.

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## Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- April 9: Columbus Hamfest at Bartholomew County Fairgrounds, 8:00 am to noon. Go to <http://www.carcnet.net/> for more information.
  - April 16: North Central Indiana Hamfest at Miami County 4H Fairgrounds. Go to <http://www.nci-hamfest.net/> for more info.
  - May 20 – 22: Dayton Hamvention <http://hamvention.org/>
  - July 8 – 9: Indianapolis Hamfest at Marion County Fairgrounds.
- NOTE: TWO DAY EVENT THIS YEAR! Go to <http://www.indyhamfest.com/> for more information.

## 2016 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – EMAIL [n9kt@arrl.net](mailto:n9kt@arrl.net)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL [dmiller@ivytech.edu](mailto:dmiller@ivytech.edu)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - ..EMAIL [ws9h.indy@gmail.com](mailto:ws9h.indy@gmail.com)
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL [k9xv@arrl.net](mailto:k9xv@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - .. *[SK will be replaced]*
- Dir. at large: Bob Osterhous - ..EMAIL [rosterhous@comcast.net](mailto:rosterhous@comcast.net)
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL [don9doo@indy.rr.com](mailto:don9doo@indy.rr.com)